

therefore they often fall a prey to frost before they can expand. Nevertheless it is a good kind of plant, for in those seasons when it does escape injury it adds a brilliant touch of color to the garden at a very dull season. There are several forms of the plant, some having deciduous leaves, and in other cases the leaves are evergreen or sub-evergreen." (The Garden, Jan. 11, 1913.)

Soja max. (Fabaceae.) 38450-462. Seeds of the soybean from Sianfu, Shensi, China. Thirteen varieties of this important Chinese crop plant, hitherto called *Glycine hispida* in the Office publications. Mr. C. V. Piper has recently shown that the name should be *Soja max* and we have listed the introductions here to direct attention to the change. (Meyer's introductions.)

Zea mays. (Poaceae.) 38544. Ears of corn from the Upper Gy Parana River, Brazil. Collected by Mr. Leo E. Miller, of New York, collector for the Roosevelt Brazilian Expedition. "Corn received from the 'Pauetes' or 'Powetes' Indians on the Upper Gy Parana (Machabo) River, Brazil. This tribe of Indians was absolutely unknown. I was the first person to come into contact with them. The Gy Parana flows into the Madeira." (Miller.)

NOTES FROM CORRESPONDENTS ABROAD.

Rev. W. M. Hayes writes from Tsingchowfu, Shantung, China, May 25, 1914. "I do not know whether Mr. Meyer, when through this section, secured specimens of the Chinese winter pear or not. We are eating them on the table every day now, and they will last some time yet. This variety is really not ripe until the next spring after it is picked, and while not as luscious as a good apple, yet it fills a vacancy in April and May very acceptably. As you know that is a season when the housewives find it difficult to provide for the table:

"Thanks for what you say about peach grafting: the Chinese bud too, but they find grafting more satisfactory because it gives quicker results. They do not use grafting wax, but use a heavy ball of clay, as much as they can make adhere to the limb, and tie it on with a species of tough pliant leaves. I find that oiled paper though will do equally well. The point in wrapping the clay with the leaves is to keep it from being washed away in the rains. If the season should be a prolonged dry one, which we are very liable to have here in the spring, then they tear off the top of the wrapping and pour in water enough to moisten the clay again."

Mr. Frank N. Meyer writes from Peking, China, June 4, 1914, suggesting the following tentative itinerary for the coming year. Certain changes in it will no doubt be nec-